

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee Meeting held on Monday 17th June 2019 at 6.15 pm in the Market House, Newent

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Draper (Chair), Mrs Duncan, Mrs Howley, Heathfield, Mrs Odhiambo, Town Clerk and 1 member of public.

- 1. Apologies –** Cllr Mrs Davies.
- 2. Declarations of interest –** None.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2018**

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Heathfield, Seconded by Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

4. To agree date and timings for this year's event

It was agreed that this year's event will take place on Saturday 23rd November, to coincide with St Mary's Church Christmas Tree Festival. The Clerk was asked to write to the Memorial Hall to confirm the date.

(1 member of the public joined the meeting at this juncture)

A discussion took place regarding the timings of the event, as few people attended at the start last year, so it was felt that condensing the times would be better for entertainers as well as attendees.

The event will commence at 2.30 pm, with Father Christmas entering the town at 4.30 pm followed by the Christmas lights switch-on.

The Council will apply for a road closure order between 2 pm and 7 pm.

5. To agree theme for the event

The following themes were suggested: Christmas' around the world, The Grinch, princes & princesses.

The Committee agreed to consider these options and how they could be incorporated into the event for further discussion at the next meeting.

6. To consider what performers and equipment should be booked

The Council will apply to the District Council for a free parking in Lewall Street Car Park.

There will not be a parade this year. Bluebell the Donkey with Mary and Joseph will walk into town from outside the Black Dog followed by Father Christmas on his Sleigh.

Danters will be invited to attend again this year and a second children's ride can be accommodated.

Cllr Mrs Howley will contact some local singers and Picklenash School to see if they are available to perform.

The Community Choir will be invited again and Mr Goulding will be asked if he is able provide the sound system and music.

Two snow machines will be ordered as usual, as these are very popular with the children.

The stage will need to be booked.

A suggestion was made that residents could enter their house Christmas light displays into a competition, which will be judged by Councillors. Further details to be provided at the next meeting.

Two events could be held for children to decorate baubles for hanging on the tree. Cllr Mrs Draper will provide further details at the next meeting.

7. To consider if stalls should be charged and who to invite

It was agreed that stalls should not be charged but asked to give a donation. Businesses within a 10 mile radius will be invited to attend.

Cllr Mrs Howley will make contact with some people who may be interested in having a stall.

The Gluten Free Fish and Chip Van would be asked to attend, providing they can be sited in the Co-op car park.

8. To consider budget allocation

Resolved: A Christmas tree is purchased with a maximum cost of £500.00.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, All in favour.

Some lights will need to be replaced. The Clerk will circulate some options for consideration.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 22nd July at 6.15 pm.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.